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infectious disease. By the sanitary authorities all the respective preventive measures have been adopted.

In one house on a street, that in hygienic circumstances is in a deplorable condition, there have occurred 2 cases that have resulted fatally and were registered with the diagnosis of lymphatitis. In these cases also it was the question of new arrivals from Oporto. Afterwards, when in the same locality 3 other cases of a suspicious infectious disease occurred, this disease was classified as plague in consequence of a bacteriological examination. The patients were transported to the isolation hospital and the persons who had been in contact with those patients were isolated and supervised. Of those 3 patients, 1 died in the hospital shortly after arrival. Under that impression, I sent you a dispatch on July 6. Another of the 2 patients died on July 15.

Since that time nothing has been communicated officially in regard to the existence of plague. But I have various motives, suspecting that other sporadic cases of plague have been observed, and I know that during the last week 3 or 4 deaths from lymphatitis (?) have been reported by physicians in their death certificates. It is self-evident that the question is treated with a certain discretion. I am not able to present proofs, and it is far from my intention to say anything that may cause or render suspicion to rest upon the sanitary authorities or give them annoyance.

It is certain, in any case, that up to the present time plague does not

exist on any considerable scale.

The foregoing had already been written when I obtained trustworthy information to the effect that there has occurred during the last six days 1 case of plague every day. It is worthy of note that those cases have occurred in different parts of the city. The sanitary authorities have taken the precautions which the circumstances demand, but the existence of plague has not been officially declared. Consequently, the sanitary condition of the city is in a peculiar and uncertain state. It is possible that these cases may not be followed by others, but it is also possible that they may be the beginning of an epidemic.

Respectfully, W. HAVELBURG,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

## BRITISH HONDURAS.

# Report from Belize-Fruit port.

BELIZE, BRITISH HONDURAS, August 18, 1901.

SIR: I have to make the following report of the conditions and transactions at this port during the week ended August 17, 1901:

Population, according to census of 1901, 9,114; present officially estimated population, 9,114. Number of cases and deaths from yellow fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from smallpox during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from typhus fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from cholera during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from plague during the week, none; number of deaths from other causes during the week, 3. Prevailing diseases, malarial in character. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good.

Bills of health were issued to the following vessels: August 16, steam-

ship S. Oteri; crew, 35; passengers from this port. 3; passengers in transit, 13; pieces of baggage disinfected, 9; steamship Managua; crew, 16; passengers from this port, none; passengers in transit, none; pieces of baggage disinfected, none. August 17, steamship Bergenseren; crew, 17; passengers from this port, none; passengers in transit, none; pieces of baggage disinfected, none.

Respectfully,

J. GREY THOMAS,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U.S. M. H.S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

#### CANADA.

Inspection of immigrants at Quebec for the two weeks ended August 24, 1901.

QUEBEC, CANADA, August 17, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the week ended August 17, there were inspected 346 immigrants; passed, 339; detained, 7; cause of detention, debility, 1; hernia, 2; necrosis of bones of foot, 1; pregnancy, 1; tinea tonsurans, 1; trachoma, 1.

On August 14 there were inspected at Montreal 5 immigrants;

passed, 1; detained, 4; cause of detention, trachoma, 4.

Respectfully,

VICTOR G. HEISER, Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

QUEBEC, CANADA, August 24, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the week ended August 24 there were inspected 462 immigrants; passed, 457; detained, 5; cause of detention, chronic otitis media of both ears, 1; pregnancy, 1; senile debility, 2; tinea tonsurans, 1.

During the week there were inspected at Newport, Vt., 2 immigrants; passed, none; detained, 2; cause of detention, debility, 1; favus, 1.

Respectfully,

VICTOR G. HEISER, Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

### CHINA.

## Reports from Hongkong.

Hongkong, China, July 22, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the report of inspection work at this station for the week ended July 20, 1901.

Five steamers were inspected during the week, 326 individuals were bathed, and 410 bundles of clothing and bedding were disinfected by steam. There was 1 rejection during the week because of fever.

The plague situation continues to show great improvement, only 12 cases and 15 deaths having been reported to the sanitary authorities during the week. The total cases and deaths due to plague thus far this year are, therefore, 1,570 and 1,497, respectively.

Respectfully,

JOHN W. KERR,

Assistant Surgeon, U.S. M. H.S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.